

DOCKET NO. 8631-009-21 CONT

**IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE**

IN RE APPLICATION OF: Gary B. CARMAN, et al.

ART UNIT:

SERIAL NO.: New Application

EXAMINER:

FILING DATE: Herewith

FOR: DYNAMIC O<sub>x</sub> BIOLOGICAL BURDEN REDUCTION

21A  
27  
8/29/01

**PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT**

ASSISTANT COMMISSIONER FOR PATENTS  
WASHINGTON, D.C. 20231

SIR:

Prior to consideration of the above-identified application on its merits, please amend the above-identified application as follows:

**IN THE SPECIFICATION:**

Prior to "Field of the Invention", please insert: - This application is a Continuation of application Serial No. 09/217,581, filed December 22, 1998 (Allowed) which claims priority to provisional application Serial No. 60/068,668, filed December 23, 1997 (abandoned), the entirety of each of which is incorporated herein by reference.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

Please cancel claims 1-46 without prejudice or disclaimer.

Please add new claim 47 as follows:

1. (NEW) A method for biological burden reduction, comprising a step of applying a continuous stream of O<sub>x</sub> gas to a material in a sealed biological burden reduction chamber, wherein a temperature in said biological burden reduction chamber is maintained at about 45°C